Production of cement

*30. SHRI KALPNATH RAI:
SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether production of cement in the country has been declining, year after year;

(b) if so, what are the figures of production year-wise during the last three years and the expected production during the current financial year; and

(c) what steps are being taken to increase the production of cement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) No. Sir. production of cement has not been declining year after year. On the contrary, the production has been increasing consistently as shown by the following figures for the last three years:—

Year	Central Production (in million tonnes)
1984-85	30.19
1985-86	33.13
1986-87	36.50

The production during the current financial year i.e. 1987-88 is likely to be 41.50 million tonnes.

(c) The following steps have been taken to increase the production of Cement in the country:—

(i) The retention price of levy cement has been increased and the levy obligation of the cement industry has been reduced with the twin objective of compensating the industry for increase in the cost of production and improving its profitability.

(ii) A rebate in excise duty to the extent Rs. 20 per tonne and Rs. 50 per tonne has been given in respect of new units which commenced production between 1-1-82 to 31.3.86 and on and after 1.4.86 respectively.

(iii) The cement industry has been encouraged to set up captive diesel power generating capacity and appropriate relief by way of reduction in levy obligation is allowed to compensate for increase cost of cement production with the help of high cost DG. captive power.

(iv) The industry has been encouraged to convert wet process units into dry process units by giving suitable relief in levy obligation.

Schemes for Energy Development in Rajasthan

*31. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the schemes to be undertaken during the Seventh Plan period for the development of energy in Rajasthan;

(b) what are the names of the places in Rajasthan where new power plants are proposed to be set up and what will be the generation capacity of each of the plants; and

(c) what amount of money has been allocated for the implementation of these schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b) The details of the power projects to be commissioned in the State Sector during the Seventh Plan period for the development of energy